From: Bridget S. Bishop via unc_immigration
To: unc_immigration@lists.northcarolina.edu
Subject: [unc_immigration] FW: [UNC-System-Office-Main] Daily News Clips for Feb. 13, 2026
Date: Friday, February 13, 2026 12:50:27 PM
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

From: UNC System Office via UNC-System-Office-Main <unc-system-office-main@lists.northcarolina.edu>
Date: Friday, February 13, 2026 at 12:36 PM
To: unc-system-office-main@lists.northcarolina.edu <unc-system-office-main@lists.northcarolina.edu>
Subject: [UNC-System-Office-Main] Daily News Clips for Feb. 13, 2026

February 13, 2026

Daily News Clips

UNC System News | Higher Education News | Opinion

UNC System News

Carolina Journal | February 12, 2026

The gender gap in NC higher education is growing

The report found that, while enrollment numbers at universities in North Carolina vary, the state historically reflects national patterns. In 1980, male and female enrollment

trends in the University of North Carolina and North Carolina Community College Systems were close to 50-50, with women holding a narrow lead. By 2023, the proportion of male to female enrollment dropped significantly.

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The News & Observer | February 13, 2026

UNC is merging 6 global studies centers into one, with a fraction of the budget

The centers, whose closure is part of a $7 million cut to centers and institutes from the university's budget, will be allocated $675,000 total, said UNC Faculty Council Chair Beth Moracco.

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WRAL-TV | February 11, 2026

UNC is spending more than ever on athletics. Here's where the money is going

North Carolina's athletics department expenses have risen more than $67 million in the last four years and another big increase is expected as UNC invests heavily in its football program.

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Carolina Journal | February 12, 2026

UNC urges top court to reject records case linked to COVID's origin

The case deals specifically with a university research exemption in North Carolina's public records law. UNC-CH has withheld more than 4,500 documents based on that exemption.

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The News & Observer | February 13, 2026

Judge allows protesters back on UNC campus. Duke prof plans to take

court up on it

Now, once-banned Duke anthropology professor Emily Rogers says she plans to exercise her restored right. “Dr. Rogers has had to decline multiple speaker invitations and forgo professional obligations on UNC’s campus due to her ban,” Rogers’ lawyers told The News & Observer. “She looks forward to engaging with her colleagues at UNC for the first time in nearly two years, and to exercising her right to free speech on a public university campus. She may even go to a women’s basketball game with friends.

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WLOS-TV | February 12, 2026

WCU launches early voting shuttle after on-campus polling site closure

Shuttles will pick students up at the University Center and take them to the early voting site at the Jackson County Recreation Center.

Click to read 'College students in Guilford County frustrated by federal judge's ruling on campus voting sites'

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WFDD-FM | February 13, 2026

A year after federal cuts, community powers Winston-Salem teacher training program

It’s a partnership between Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem State University and Salem College that began in 2022. Residents complete master’s level coursework focused on either elementary, secondary or special education, and intern alongside mentor teachers in local high-need schools.

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WITN-TV | February 12, 2026

ECU S.H.O.E.S. project ‘steps up’ to support struggling students

Every shoe carries a message from someone dealing with depression, anxiety, addiction, self-harm, or a family crisis. Statistics also line the Mall, reminding everyone passing by that mental health struggles affect every age, background, and student.

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The Daily Tar Heel | February 11, 2026

Almost five years later, effort to rename UNC buildings has made little progress

The commission, made up of UNC faculty, students and community members, was formed in 2019, a year before a 16-year moratorium on name changing was lifted by the UNC Board of Trustees. According to a University release from the same year, the commission was designed as the “latest step in the University’s reconsideration of the names on its buildings.”

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WGHP-TV | February 11, 2026

NC A&T State University grad inspires next generation of female scientists

If we have a strong enough career, we might surprise ourselves. “I’m amazed when I hear my own bio,” Joeletta Patrick said. But her success, earning her PhD and having a 20+ year career at NASA, definitely set her apart, but there were some hurdles along the way.

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WLOS-TV | February 11, 2026

WCU exhibit explores moonshining as a symbol of independence and rebellion

Western Carolina University's Mountain Heritage Center is offering the community the chance to check out a real moonshine still. The center just opened a new exhibit called "Moonshine: Spirit of Independence."

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WLOS-TV | February 12, 2026

Troll takeover at North Carolina Arboretum ends Feb. 17 after record-breaking visitation

Officials say it has drawn record crowds, with visitation up 800% in the first two months alone.

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Higher Education News

Education Dive | February 12, 2026

Down 9.2%: Colleges see drop in new gifts to endowments

At the same time, colleges tapped their endowments more amid disruptions to federal funding and other financial pressures. Collectively, colleges in the study withdrew $33.4 billion in fiscal 2025, up 11% from the prior year.

No reach data

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NPR | February 12, 2026

US Colleges received more than $5 billion in foreign gifts, contracts in 2025

Qatar was the largest foreign source of funds to schools, making up more than 20% — or about 1.1 billion. Other sources include the United Kingdom, China, Switzerland and Japan.

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Inside Higher Ed | February 13, 2026

State Higher Ed Officials Do Away With the Term ‘Noncredit’

A group of state higher ed leaders are on a mission to get rid of the term. They argue it underplays the value of these programs and shortchanges students.

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Inside Higher Ed | February 13, 2026

Faculty Moving Away From Outright Bans on AI, Study Finds

Highly restrictive policies introduced after the launch of ChatGPT are being eased in favor of more nuanced responses, finds a study of thousands of course materials.

No reach data

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Associated Press | February 12, 2026

UT-Austin to consolidate race, ethnic and gender study programs

The departments, along with American Studies as well as Mexican American and Latino Studies, will be consolidated into a Social and Cultural Analysis department in a process that is expected to be complete by September 2027.

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Inside Higher Ed | February 12, 2026

Virginia Tech Bans University-Funded Identity-Based Graduations

“The decision aligns with guidance from the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, which states that federal civil rights law prohibits using race in decisions related to graduation ceremonies and cautions that such practices may be perceived as segregation,” the university said in its announcement. But it’s unclear what guidance it was referencing.

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Opinion

The James G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal | February 12, 2026

UNC Tuition Has Already Tripled

The UNC System doesn’t need another increase after 330% growth since 1999.

31.1k Reach

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Inside Higher Ed | February 13, 2026

Don’t Record What You Don’t Want to Have to Watch

Playing Big Brother would get tiring quickly. Any provost with enough time to review the videos of hundreds of classes isn’t doing their job.

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The New York Times | February 12, 2026

A.I. Companies Are Eating Higher Education

Hoping to win recognition as leaders in A.I. or fearful of being left behind, more and more colleges and universities are eagerly partnering with A.I. companies, despite decades of evidence demonstrating the need to test education technology, which often fails to deliver measurable improvements in student learning. A.I. companies are increasingly exerting outsize influence over higher education and using these settings as training grounds to further their goal of creating artificial general intelligence (A.I. systems that can substitute for humans).

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